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## EXTRAORDINARY.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1799.

*Downing-Street, July* 10, 1799.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, have been this Day received from the Right Honorable Lord William Bentinck by the Right Honorable Lord Grenville, His Majeſty's Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

MY LORD, *Placenza, June* 22, 1799.

BEFORE I begin to relate the different Actions which have taken place, and which I am happy to ſay have terminated in the moſt complete Succeſs, it will be neceſſary previouſly to ſtate to your Lordſhip the Situation of the Allied Army, by which you will be better able to underſtand the Views of the Enemy, and the Movements by which they have been defeated. The great and extenſive Plan of Operations undertaken by Field-Marſhal Suwarrow have neceſſarily very much divided his Force. Beſides the Siege of Turin; Mantua, Alexandria, and Tortona, were blockaded. The Paſſes of Suſa, Pignerol, and the Col D'Aſſiette, have been occupied. Major-General Hohenzollern was poſted at Modena with a conſiderable Corps: Lieutenant-General Ott with Ten Thouſand Men, at Reggio, obſerved the Movements of the Enemy on that Side, while Field-Marſhal Suwarrow remained at Turin with the Reſt of the Army. This divided State of the Army appears to have preſented to General Moreau the moſt favorable Opportunity of retrieving the French Affairs in Italy. He hoped, by ſtrongly reinforcing the Army of Naples, that General Macdonald would be able to defeat the ſeparate Corps of Generals Ott and Hohenzollern, and afterwards to effect a Junction with the Army under his own Command; and he probably conceived that the Field-Marſhal was too diſtant to afford Aſſiſtance. With this View the Army of Macdonald, which had advanced very far to the North of Italy, was joined by the Diviſion of Victor, and, from the Report of the French Officers taken, muſt have amounted to near Thirty Thouſand Men, compoſed entirely of French, with the Exception of One Poliſh Legion. Field-Marſhal Suwarrow having received Information of the Intentions of the Enemy, immediately collected all the Force at Alexandria, whence he marched on the 15th with Seventeen Battalions of Ruſſians, Twelve Battalions of Auſtrian Dragoons, and Three Regiments of Coſacks. In the meantime General Macdonald had fallen upon Major-General Hohenzollern, and had obliged him to croſs the Po with conſiderable Loſs. Lieutenant-General Ott had alſo been obliged to retire from Reggio to Placenza. On the 17th, the French attacked General Ott, and compelled him to fall back upon Caſtel S. Gioanni, when the Arrival of the Army, under the Command of Field-Marſhal Suwarrow, enabled Lieutenant-General Ott to repulſe the French behind the Tidone River with the Loſs of One Piece of Cannon and ſeveral Pri-

oners.—On the 18th, the Army marched in Three Columns to attack the Enemy.—The Ruſſian General Roſenberg commanded the Right Column, the Ruſſian General Foerſter the Center, and General Melas the Left.—The Ruſſian Major-General Prince Prokration commanded the Advanced Guard, Prince Licktenſtein the Reſerve.—The Columns moved at Twelve o'Clock.—The Country is perfectly flat, and very much interſected with Ditches and Rows of Vines. It does not appear that the Enemy occupied any particular Poſition. An advanced Corps of Two Battalions and Two Guns at Caſſaleggio was attacked by the Ruſſian Grenadiers, and the whole made Priſoners. The French Line retired behind the Trebbia. It was too late, and the Troops were too much fatigued to make a general Attack, which was ordered for the next Morning. The Trebbia is the moſt rapid Torrent in Italy. The Diſtance from One Bank to the other is near a Mile. The intermediate Space is an open Sand, divided by ſeveral Streams, which at this Seaſon are fordable anywhere. The French occupied the Right Bank, the Allies the left. On the 19th, while the Allies were preparing to make the Attack, the French began a very heavy Fire upon the whole Line. For a Moment they ſucceeded in turning the Right of the Ruſſians at Caſſaleggio, and obliged them to fall back; but at this Inſtant Prince Prokration, who had been detached with the ſame Intent on the Enemy's Left, fell upon their Rear and Flank, and took One Piece of Cannon and many Priſoners. The French did not however give up their Object. They renewed the Attack repeatedly upon the Village of Caſſaleggio, but they were always defeated by the obſtinate Valour of the Ruſſians. The Attack upon the Center and Left was equally violent. For ſome Time the Succeſs was doubtful, but at Night the whole French Line was repulſed behind the Trebbia. It was the Intention of the Field-Marſhal Suwarrow to have followed up this Succeſs the next Morning, but the French Army retired in the Night. On the 20th in the Morning the Army purſued the Enemy in Two Columns. The Ruſſians on the Night marched by Settima, Montaruno, and Zena, where the Rear Guard of the French, after an obſtinate Reſiſtance, laid down their Arms. The Left Column, compoſed of Auſtrians, marched on the great Road from Placenza to Parma as far as Ponte Nura. On the 21ſt the Army moved on to Fiorenzola. Lieutenant-General Ott was detached with a Corps of Auſtrians in Purſuit of the Enemy. Several Priſoners have already been ſent in. General Ott has reported, that the French are retiring in Two Columns, One upon Parma, the other upon Forte Novo. Prince Hohenzollern has again advanced to Parma. Seven Pieces of Cannon, Four French Generals, and above Ten Thouſand Priſoners have fallen into the Hands of the Allies. General Moreau has advanced to Tortona, where he gained a ſlight Advantage over the Advanced Poſts of General Bellegarde. General Moreau's Army, from all Reports, does not exceed Twelve Thouſand Men, among whom are a vaſt Number of Genoeſe. Not having ſeen any Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Auſtrians, it is impoſſible for me to ſay what their Loſs has been; it muſt have been conſiderable.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM BENTINCK.

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MY LORD, *Placenza, June 23, 1799.*

SINCE I had the Honor of writing to your Lordſhip Yeſterday, the very important News of the Surrender of the Citadel of Turin has arrived. The Garriſon is to return to France immediately, to be exchanged for an equal Number of Auſtrian Priſoners. General Fiorella, the Commandant of the Citadel, and all the French Officers taken with him, are detained as Hoſtages till the Articles of the Capitulation are executed. Field-Marſhal Suwarrow arrived here this Morning with the Main Army; he will march To-morrow towards Alexandria, in order to cover the Sieges of that Town and of Tortona. General Ott has formed a Junction with Major-Generals Klenau and Hohenzollern at Parma.—General Macdonald has retreated with his whole Corps by Forte Novo towards Genoa.

I have the Honor, &c.

WILLIAM BENTINCK.

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